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WHEAT SALE COMMITMENT TO USSR WILL BE FULFILLED

WA060409 London REUTER in English 0220 GMT 5 Jan 80 WA

[Text] Buenos Aires, Jan 5, REUTER--Argentina will fulfill its commitment to sell a million tons of wheat to the Soviet Union but is unlikely to supply any more because of its own domestic needs, government sources said today. The sources were commenting on President Carter's decision to hold up an estimated 17 million tons of U.S. grain bound for the Soviet Union because of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Argentina had already sold the 3.6 million tons of wheat available for export from the 1979-80 season. One million tons of this had been committed to the Soviet Union and there was no doubt that this contract would be fulfilled, they said.

Argentina's total 1979-80 wheat crop, now in mid-harvest, is estimated at about 7.6 million tons against last season's 8.2 million tons. Its domestic consumption is more than four million tons.

FOREIGN MINISTER DISAPPOINTED OVER OAS HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

PY051725 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1500 GMT 5 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpts] Mar del Plata, 5 Jan (NA)--Foreign Minister Carlos Pastor has revealed that the report by the OAS Inter-American Human Rights Commission on the Argentine situation "is far from being the objective and impartial judgment we had expected," and added that "I feel disappointed" because "undoubtedly it is not as fair...as it should have been." He reported that "in a few weeks there will be more publicity about this and about the line of conduct the government will adopt" regarding the document the OAS organization wrote after a painstaking visit to this country last September when it gathered a number of reports on the human rights situation in Argentina, a document which is now being studied by the Foreign Ministry.

Pastor made these statements last night in this city, where he arrived yesterday, and they were published by the local newspapers today.

Referring to the campaign of foreign reporting which "discredits" the Argentine image, the minister said that "it has always gone on, and I believe it will continue for some time." He added: "But truth always prevails, and the Argentine truth will prevail on all fronts and against all distortions which they try to orchestrate abroad."

Regarding the country's foreign relations outlook for this year, Pastor maintained, "I regard it as very favorable because the bases have been laid for its specific weight [peso especifico] to become ever greater." He continued: "The present reality of the nation is that of a country which has become politically, economically and socially stronger," and "I therefore believe that Argentina will play a very important role in foreign relations in 1980."

Pastor also referred to the negotiations with England over the return of the Malvinas Islands. He said: "A promising future is ahead, because after a long period of interruption there are now full diplomatic relations with ambassadors who are fully empowered to resume the negotiations."

INTERNATIONAL PROTEST AGAINST TIN SALE TO BE INITIATED

PY041456 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Bolivia has asked for an urgent session of the OAS Permanent Council to denounce as economic aggression and nonfulfillment of international agreements the enactment of a law by the U.S. Government authorizing the sale of a portion of its strategic tin reserves.

Mining and Metallurgy Minister Oscar Bonifaz stated yesterday that Bolivia will begin an international protest campaign against the U.S. decision and for that purpose Bolivia will assume a rigid attitude at the next meeting of the International Tin Council [ITC] and at the meeting of the tin-producing countries. Bonifaz also stated that the Bolivian ambassador to the OAS, Gonzalo Romero, has been given instructions to submit a formal protest to that international body.

According to his reports, the authorization for the GSA [U.S. Government Services Administration] to sell the tin is a consummated fact. Bonifaz reported that the United States has not complied with Article 43, Clause A of the 5th international tin agreement, which stipulates compulsory talks between any member country and tin-producing countries before selling noncommercial tin reserves on the market. He stated that such talks should have been held at the moment of the intention or the wish to carry out the sale, but it did not happen that way.

Bonifaz added: In spite of this irregularity, the United States will submit its decision at the next ITC meeting. We will confirm our opposition, since we will not be dealing with a wish or an intention, but with an accomplished fact. We will oppose this sale, and we will not negotiate its method of selling because any negotiation will imply the acknowledgment or legalization of the U.S. aggression. Bonifaz also stated that the United States will not be complying with Article 43, Clause D of the ITC agreement because the sale of the tin will affect the tin-producing countries, especially Bolivia. According to unofficial sources, the 30,000 tons of tin will be sold by the GSA on the U.S. internal market over a 30-year period at the rate of 820 tons per month.

NATUSCH COUPISTS REPORTEDLY INTEND ANOTHER COUP ATTEMPT

PY050252 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 0200 GMT 5 Jan 80 PY

[Text] There is no agreement yet among the armed forces. Early this morning we (?reported) the results of investigations carried out by Fides, which in effect demonstrate that the release of the general order regarding the investigations is being delayed. Armed forces sources which merit confidence have indicated that several officers and commanders have been relieved of duty, Col [name indistinct] being among them. Other officers have requested leave [words indistinct]. During this past Christmas, the officers in this situation [words indistinct] Col Alberto Natusch's coup.

Fides tried to interview Natusch, but we failed in view of the High Command's precise orders that Natusch make no statements. Notwithstanding, during the investigation we were able to learn from military sources that the military officers who were responsible for the tragic events of November remain in their posts in the army. We have also established that the military officers who were directly involved in Natusch's coup have reiterated their intention to carry out another coup.

GOVERNMENT DEPLORES INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN

PY041231 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 4 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Brasilia--The Brazilian Government deplores the foreign intervention in Afghanistan and reaffirms its support for the principle of self-determination of the peoples and nonintervention in domestic affairs of other nations. This is the gist of the official communique issued by Itamaraty in connection with the situation in Afghanistan. The communique does not mention the USSR and, according to the government spokesman, Brazil has not done anything else about the matter, nor does it plan to convey its opposition directly to the Soviet Government or to withdraw its ambassador in Moscow.

PLANNING MINISTER PUTS 1979 INFLATION RATE AT 77 PERCENT

PY041234 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Jan 80 PY

[By Carlos Rodriguez from Brasilia]

[Text] Inflation reached 77 percent in 1979. In December alone it amounted to 7.2 percent, according to what Planning Minister Delfim Neto disclosed yesterday. The year's inflation is the highest in the last 5 years, second only to the inflation rate of 1974, which reached 91.9 percent. According to the planning minister, inflation will decrease in 1980.

Finance Minister Comments

PY051305 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Finance Minister Karlos Rischbieter has admitted that the ministers of the economic sector may place their posts at the disposal of President Joao Figueiredo unless the inflation shows signs of reversing by the end of the first 6 months of the year.

The finance minister believes that the first 3 months of this year will be very difficult because the inflation rate will continue to be high. In Rischbieter's opinion, the second 3-month period will be crucial. The minister added that it will be crucial because the situation will become complicated unless we are successful.

In view of this not-so-favorable prospect for the government, Rischbieter stated that he is committed to substantially reducing the inflation rate and maintaining the economic growth rate at an adequate level, thus gaining the confidence of the Brazilian society.

BRIEFS

GATT ACCORDS--Itamaraty disclosed yesterday that following the granting of the pertinent authorization by President Figueiredo, Brazilian Charge d'Affaires in Geneva Alvaro Gurgel de Alencar signed the code of subsidies and compensatory measures, the agreement on technical trade barriers, the accord on beef trade and the new antidumping code, which went into effect on 1 January as a result of multilateral negotiations conducted within the framework of the GATT. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 3 Jan 80 p 24 PY]

POLITICAL PARTIES REJECT U.S. CRITICISM OF OIL PRICE HIKE

PA060334 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2225 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 5 Jan (EFE)--Parties from the entire Mexican political spectrum have protested Tuesday's statement by the U.S. State Department condemning the rise in the price of Mexican crude. A veritable landslide of rejections of the U.S. criticism today united the Mexican public against what is described as "an attack on the country's sovereignty."

On Tuesday, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter called the rise in the price of Mexican oil decreed on Monday "unjustified." The price hike put the price of each barrel of light "isthmus"-type oil at $32.

Irritated by the U.S. attitude, the opposition has joined the progovernment political groups in backing the price increase and following the line of a harsh reply to the U.S. stand which was initially taken by President Jose Lopez Portillo yesterday.

The Mexican Communist Party expressed its support for the oil price hike and its "forceful rejection" of the "U.S. pressures." The rightist Mexican Democratic Party and two leftist progovernment parties, the Socialist Workers Party and the Popular Socialist Party, made similar statements.

Institutional Revolutionary Party Deputy Demetrio Ruiz, speaking for the party, which is currently in power, called Hodding Carter's statement "an insulting interference" in Mexican affairs.

For his part, the Mexican president replied to Hodding Carter yesterday by stressing in a speech that Mexico's oil resources are its own and that no one can tell Mexico what to do with its resources.

The Mexican press points out that Hodding Carter's statement was not supported by the White House. The papers also reported the Washington POST's criticism of State Department policy.

Diplomatic sources said today that the incident has undoubtedly affected the level of Mexican-U.S. relations, which has had considerable ups and downs over the past few years. Washington has not had an ambassador in Mexico since former Governor Patrick Lucey resigned in November. When he resigned, Lucey asked for greater U.S. effort in understanding Mexico.

Today, Saturday, the papers reflect the growing concern in the country over the attitude the United States might adopt in the future to satisfy its energy needs. Columnist Jorge Aymami of the newspaper EL DIA today published an article asking for the formation of a "strong army" which, he said, Mexico needs so "as not to go to war."

The leftist morning newspaper UNO MAS UNO said: "Hounded for its oil riches, the nation is now facing an open, concrete and immediate pressure from the United States on a vital aspect of the present and future of its self-determination such as Mexico has not faced for several generations." UNO MAS UNO called for "firm national unity," saying that "perhaps the time has come to reinforce the national struggle that the government is now waging by strengthening the country's resistance from its foundations."

CRITICA PUBLISHES 21 DEC IRANIAN NOTE ON SHAH'S EXTRADITION

PA052311 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 5 Jan 80 p 15 PA

[Apparent text of note by the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Panamanian Foreign Ministry and delivered by the Iranian UN mission--dated 21 December 1979]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby greets the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Panama and, concerning the move of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi by the United States of America to Panama, it wishes to call the attention of the people and Government of Panama to the position of the people and Government of Iran on this matter.

The Iranian people have always sympathized and admired the constant struggles of the Latin American nations against U.S. hegemony and imperialism and that is how they feel about the Panamanian people's struggle to recover their legitimate sovereignty over the Panama Canal. In the face of these just struggles, the U.S. Government has not stopped plotting against the Latin American nations and exerting various kinds of pressure on the governments involved--particularly yours, due to the importance of U.S. military and economic interests in the Panama Canal Zone. Chile's sad example shows that the U.S. Government will resort to anything to serve its selfish interests.

However, the courageous Latin American people, ever more aware of the crimes committed by U.S. imperialism in their countries, have found new strength in the fellowship of fraternal peoples and countries to pursue their struggle for independence. The victorious struggle of the Nicaraguan people against Somoza, a corrupt dictator who served U.S. interests, is a glorious example. However, the valiant Sandinists themselves would not have been able to overthrow the hated dictatorship so fast without the aid and support of fraternal nations, notably Panama.

Nevertheless, in the case of the deposed shah of Iran, a corrupt dictator hated by us, now that the Mexican people, indignant over the crimes, refuse to welcome him again, the Panamanian Government has had to give in to U.S. pressure and agree to receive the shah. In turn, your people have voiced their indignation over the presence of this criminal, and the demonstrations of the past few days are just the beginning. However, regardless of U.S. pressure on your government, we are convinced that you will not allow yourselves to be estranged from your people and all other peoples fighting U.S. hegemony. On the other hand, in view of public pressure concerning the shah's extradition, the Panamanian Government might feel bound by the Latin American traditions as far as granting political asylum is concerned.

However, pursuant to Article 14, Paragraph 2 of the universal declaration on human rights, the right of asylum cannot be resorted to in the case of persecution based on a common law crime. Suffice it to remember that the crimes, massacres and torture committed by the deposed shah of Iran were of such magnitude that there can be no way to justify them even for political reasons. All the reports drawn up in the past 10 years by internationally famous nongovernment organizations and all studies made by various impartial organizations unanimously conclude that the deposed shah and his accomplices are guilty of flagrant, large-scale, continued human rights violations in Iran.

Dozens of thousands of families of Iranian martyrs can attest to the crimes and torture committed under the shah's regime and at his direct request or that of the people whom he assigned to do those ignoble acts. These crimes are of such magnitude that the entire international community is concerned, so the pretext of the absence of a bilateral extradition treaty to grant him asylum and protection cannot be used.

On the one hand, the crimes committed by Mohammad Reza Pahlavi in fact fall within the category of "crimes against mankind" as formulated according to the Nuremberg principles by a unanimously accepted doctrine and jurisprudence, the International Law Committee and the United Nations organization. On the other hand, to grant asylum to persons guilty of crimes against mankind is a mockery of international norms and morals. It would motivate all tyrants and criminals in the world and finally it would absolutely mar the noble tradition of granting political asylum to those who are really struggling for freedom and justice.

By requesting Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's extradition, the Iranian people are not trying to quench their thirst for revenge, they are legitimately asking that the shah answer for his crimes and reveal all the plots that allowed him for more than 25 years to establish a truly organized realm of terror and to silence the voices of the people in the somber prisons of the SAVAK. By requesting his extradition, the Iranian people are showing that the oppressed nations of the world will no longer allow imperialist powers to toy with their destiny, disregard their national dignity, plot coups d'etat at their whim and impose on defenseless nations tyrants servile to foreign orders.

All oppressed peoples should constitute a fellowship around this anti-imperialist struggle, and we hope that the people and Government of Panama will understand the real sense of this fight and reject U.S. impositions.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran takes this opportunity to assure the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Panama of its highest esteem.

Presidency Responds to Extradition Request

PA050156 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The presidency of the republic this afternoon released the text of the note which President Aristides Royo sent to the Islamic Government of Iran, concerning its request for the extradition of the former shah of Iran. The note, which is self-explanatory, reads as follows:

Gentlemen, I have the honor of greeting your excellencies and acknowledging receipt of your Foreign Ministry's letter dated 21 December, whereby you announced the forwarding of a request of extradition. In that respect, the Government of the Republic of Panama considers it necessary first to place in its right context the conditions under which it agreed to receive in its territory the former shah of Iran, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. At the time of this decision, the conflict between your country and the United States had reached such a serious stage that the world feared for peace.

Our government and people have repeatedly shown their support to the revolutionaries of the world, and we have committed ourselves to peoples struggling against oppression and dictatorships. In the liberation struggle of Nicaragua, we risked all our gains achieved through the canal treaties and were the first to recognize the Sandinist government, even before the U.S. Congress had approved the laws implementing the canal treaties.

In the struggle to recover our sovereignty, as well as in the struggles waged by a sister nation, our country never yielded to any international pressure. For this reason, it is difficult for us to understand and how your council and government could even have thought that our gesture responded to pressures. The Government of the Republic of Panama deemed it convenient to take an initiative that represented a clear risk in order to help in a situation of conflict, namely, the presence of the former shah in the United States, interpreted by the Iranian people as an aggression. We clearly understand the extent of the sentiments of the Iranian people, which made possible the victory of your revolution, and which permits us also to understand your position concerning the former ruler.

In order to conform to our dignity and support of human rights, we wish to express to you our disagreement with the detention of men and women, against their will, at an embassy. Even in the moments of the greatest tension in Nicaragua, the rights of diplomatic immunity were strictly observed. Even under the worst Latin American dictatorships, embassies continue to be sacred places of asylum and it is unfortunate that a revolution as profoundly moral as yours should have consented to this violation.

In announcing the forwarding of a demand of extradition, you aspire to receive the benefits of international law, the respect of which would demand the release of the persons detained at the U.S. Embassy. What respect could we Panamanians feel for ourselves if we were to observe in international law only what is convenient to you, without also pointing out what is harmful to you? As long as the Islamic Republic of Iran fails to demonstrate its intention to respect international law, it places itself in a difficult position. We are sure you will understand our position.

We hereby reiterate our respect for the motives that inspired our initiative, and the fact that the Republic of Panama is ready to initiate as soon as possible a constructive dialog in order to safeguard world peace, which we all desire, and to defend the interests of oppressed peoples.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to your excellencies the assurances of my highest esteem. [Signed] Dr Aristides Royo, president of the Republic of Panama.

PANAMANIAN LAW PREVENTING EXTRADITION EXPLAINED

PA061518 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 5 Jan 80 pp A-1, B-2 PA

[Text] The Republic of Panama has stated that it will not extradite Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, former shah of Iran, and that its actions in this regard will be based on Law 44 of 22 November 1930. The 50-year-old law states in its Article 5 that no extradition request will be satisfied: A. If the claimed person is Panamanian by birth or if the person became a naturalized Panamanian prior to carrying out the act that serves as the basis for the extradition demand;

B. If in the opinion of the executive branch [the extradition demand is based on] a political crime. However, it is understood that the assassination of the chief of state or of any other person exercising public authority in the demanding state at the time of the assassination will not be considered a political crime;

C. If the claimed person has been tried in the Republic [of Panama] for the same crime;

D. If the claimed person has been sentenced or indicted for a crime committed in the Republic [of Panama]. However, in this case the extradition will be conceded once the sentence has been served, or in the event that the court finds the person not guilty, at the conclusion of the trial;

E. If the demanding state, in accordance with its laws, has issued a penalty or a penal action;

F. If the crime is punishable with the death penalty in the claiming state, except when there is a commitment to apply to the accused another penalty or a less severe penalty.

Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the former shah of Iran, has been in our country since 15 December 1979 under the protection granted by the asylum given by the Panamanian Government which accepted him here "for humanitarian reasons."

According to what has been stated by the government, the former shah is free to move throughout the country and his extradition could be denied to Iran on the basis of Paragraph F of Article 5 of Law [44] which states: "If the crime is punishable with the death penalty in the claiming state, except when there is a commitment to apply to the accused another penalty or a less severe penalty." Iran, "the claiming state," has publicly stated its intention to execute the former shah if it ever captures him.

According to Article 1 of Law 44 of 22 November 1930, which discusses extraditions, "The extradition of criminals will be based on public treaties and if there is none, on the dispositions of the present law." Iran and Panama have not signed any extradition treaty.

The former shah of Iran, old and sick, is under strong protection on the Island of Contadora in the Gulf of Panama. He celebrated his wedding anniversary there and shared Christmas and New Year's with the Panamanians. There he awaits future developments.

In Iran the Ayatollah Khomeyni is the person responsible for several North Americans being held as hostages in the U.S. Embassy by a group of students. He has also abstained from meeting with UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

Our country's extradition law, Law 44 of 22 November 1930, was passed when Florencio Harmodio Arosemena was president.

FEP LEADER VIEWS SIGNIFICANCE OF VISIT TO IRAN

PA041424 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 4 Jan 80

[Text] The Federation of Panamanian Students [FEP] has said that the Panamanian and Iranian students are fighting the same imperialism. Julio Cesar Beytia, FEP secretary of international relations, has said that the Panamanian student delegation's visit to Iran is an act of solidarity with the struggle of the Iranian people who are threatened by imperialist pressures. The student leader was interviewed by this station about the trip. He said the following:

[Begin recording] One week ago we received an invitation from the Organization of Democratic Youth and students of Iran to send an FEP delegation to participate in some mass activities the Iranian students were organizing. This has great significance for us. It reflects the international prestige of the FEP's position. Our repudiation of the shah's presence in Panama was received with great joy by the world's students. The FEP's position was made known to 120 student organizations throughout the world.

The student and popular movement feels that it is very significant that the Iranian students, identifying themselves with our people's struggle, have decided to invite a delegation to Iran. We have repudiated the shah's presence in Panama not only because he was an assassin in Iran but because he served as imperialism's policeman and spearhead in its attempts to suppress the people and perpetuate its interests in the Middle East. Since we face the same imperialism the Iranian students and people currently face in the defense of their natural resources, the FEP rejects the shah's presence in Panama. [end recording]

Questioned about the Panamanian student delegation's tentative agenda of interviews and visits in Iran, Julio Cesar Beytia said:

[Begin recording] The Organization of Democratic Youth and students of Iran has proposed a tentative agenda which the Panamanian students will discuss in Iran. In general terms, the program includes the holding of mass events with the participation of our representatives.

We are also thinking of the possibility of issuing a joint communique of the Organization of Democratic Youth, students of Iran and the FEP regarding the [word indistinct] struggle and specifically the Iranian and Panamanian peoples' struggle. We are also interested in meeting with Iranian authorities to learn firsthand about the revolutionary changes in Iran. Although the Islamic revolution of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni includes some features which we could not consider ideal, we also believe that the imperialist news agencies have not stressed the real revolutionary changes. They are only portraying a religious revolution led by a religious fanatic and are not reporting the revolutionary changes being carried out in Iran. [end recording]

The FEP delegation will return to Panama on 9 January to participate in the events to honor the 1964 martyrs.

IRANIAN GOVERNMENT DENIES ENTRY VISAS TO FEP DELEGATION

PA041912 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] It was learned this morning in the capital that the revolutionary Government of Iran has as of this moment denied visas to three Panamanian students and one newsman who were preparing to visit Tehran on invitation of the Iranian students union.

On 2 January Mario Panther, secretary general of the Panamanian Students Federation, [FEP], Pastro Faloone and Erasmo Pradd, FEP leaders, and newsman Jose Hernandez left for Madrid. Since there has never been either an Iranian Embassy or a consulate in Panama, the travelers were supposed to request an entry visa to Ayatollah Khomeyni's premises at the Iranian Embassy in Madrid. Despite the fact that the three Panamanian students and newsman were traveling as guests of the Iranian youth and student union, whose members are occupying the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, the visas were denied by the government.

STUDENTS HOLD PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION AGAINST SHAH

PA050107 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Members of the Federation of Panamanian Students from the Panama commercial school at noon today staged a peaceful demonstration on the Transisthmian Highway while being closely watched by National Guard units headed by Maj Julian Melo. Some 100 students complained of constitutional violations to the right of peaceful meetings and, as they did yesterday and in the days before the recent holidays, protested the presence in Panama of former Iranian Shah Reza Pahlavi.

A federation delegation was scheduled to arrive today in Tehran for several visits and talks with their Iranian colleagues who are holding some 50 U.S. hostages at that country's embassy in the Iranian capital.

In the Panamanian capital, meanwhile, traffic was seriously affected for approximately 1 hour in a section of the Transisthmian Highway. The students who participated in this noon's demonstrations were advised by members of the Department of Students Affairs of the Ministry of Education, who actually mediated between them and the members of the National Guard.

BRIEFS

NEW CHIRIQUI GOVERNOR--Heberto Anguizola, representative of David Corregimiento, has been appointed mayor of Chiriqui, replacing incumbent Alfredo Macharavíaya who resigned in December. Anguizola left today for David to assume his new post. [Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA]

CONFLICTING REPORTS ISSUED ON JANUARY LEADERS' MEETING

Panama Reports Postponement

PA042327 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The meeting of presidents and government juntas of Central America and Panama will be held in early February, Vice President Jose Miguel Alfaro has said. Although the meeting had been initially planned for 26 and 27 January, it has been postponed until the first week of February for technical reasons concerning the formulation of documents, Vice President Alfaro said.

Nicaragua's D'Escoto Says Meeting On

PA060234 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry reported today it has no official knowledge that the Central American presidents' summit will be postponed. The ministry was commenting on a report of a postponement disseminated by international news agencies. This is a report by the **NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY.**

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto denied the report of a postponement this morning saying that, on the contrary, preparations are underway to hold the Central American foreign ministers' meeting in San Jose from 15 to 17 January.

Dominican Foreign Secretary Ramon Emilio Jimenez will also be invited to this meeting which will outline the main topics to be discussed by the Central American presidents' summit scheduled to be held in Managua, Nicaragua. One topic it will discuss is the area's common market.

CALDERON SAYS MINISTERS' MEETING MAY BE SUSPENDED

PA060237 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon announced today that the Central American foreign ministers meeting might be suspended. The meeting was scheduled to be held this month to prepare the area summit meeting scheduled for 26 and 27 January in Managua, Nicaragua. Calderon said that this suspension of the foreign ministers meeting does not mean that the summit meeting will be delayed. The mid-January foreign ministers meeting might not be held due to the critical situation in El Salvador and the strained relations between Honduras and Nicaragua, which worsened when a Honduran helicopter was allegedly attacked by Nicaraguan forces.

EL SALVADOR

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON CONTINUING POLITICAL CRISIS

PA041949 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1300 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Relayed by Managua Domestic Service]

[Excerpts] Yesterday afternoon militants of the 28 February Peoples Leagues (LP-28) protested the most recent acts of repression carried out against that organization by erecting incendiary barricades in the communities of San Ramon, Mejicanos and Ayatuxtepeque, all located near the capital.

Taking advantage of the chaotic situation created by the current government crisis, the Christian Democratic Party defined its stand through leader Jose Napoleon Duarte, who pointed out that the present political crisis is enabling the people to move along the true path of democratization. He said this new crisis presents an opportunity for his organization to show the people that it is interested in serving them.

Yesterday afternoon it was also learned that the three members of the commission in charge of investigating political prisoners and missing persons, well-known and honorable Salvadoran lawyers, had resigned. According to them, the present situation has totally obviated their functions and for this reason they had decided to dissolve this institution, originally created by the present revolutionary government junta.

The Revolutionary People's Army (ERP) also released a document in the afternoon. It indicates the current crisis, resulting from the ministers' resignations and the political deterioration of the imperialist government formula which had tried to stop the advance of the people's struggle, is the result of combative actions by the masses' popular and revolutionary organizations. Their activities have unamsked the reactionary forces' clear counterrevolutionary objectives. These reactionary forces are hegemonic within the armed forces and have always wielded political power in our fatherland.

According to the clandestine ERP's communique, only complete unity of the revolutionary forces in alliance with the honest and patriotic democratic sectors will make our people's final liberation possible. In this connection we ask all those forces to unite their efforts to achieve the unity our people crave, the document adds.

This communique also unveils the fear prevalent in many sectors that the present serious political crisis may lead to a unification of the guerrilla armies into a single unified front. This is discussed in the ERP communique, which notes the group's willingness to participate alongside the other popular forces in whatever unity formulas are needed to begin the struggle at any given moment.

BPR Supports Resigning Ministers

PA041338 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] Panama City--El Salvador's People's Revolutionary Bloc (BPR) today voiced its support for the ministers who have resigned from the Cabinet of the military government junta ruling that Central American country.

BPR Secretary General Juan Chacon told PRENSA LATINA over the phone that the ministers' resignation points to the contradictions between the government and the military and to a disintegration of the maneuver begun by the United States in October, when it placed the junta in power.

Through the junta, he affirmed, the United States sought a democratic opening and the implementation of a reformist program aimed at gaining a social base or support while isolating the revolutionary action from the people.

However, the U.S. plans began to fail when no understanding was reached between the civilians and the armed forces. From the moment they seized power, the armed forces continued oppressing the people just as Carlos Humberto Romero's ousted regime did, Chacon said.

According to Chacon, the junta was even unable to give its government an antioligarchic [word indistinct]. In implementing its reformist program it encountered the oligarchy's opposition, and the oligarchy's demands are contrary to those of the people.

In the popular leader's opinion, the junta entered a dead end road and chose to oppress the people as its alternative. He recalled that since the military seized power in October, 450 people have been machinegunned and killed during demonstrations staged by workers in both rural areas and in the city.

Government oppression on the one hand, and the lack of popular measures on the other, led to differences between the military and the ministers, he noted.

Majano Foresees No Coup

PA050021 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2310 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[By Rosendo Majano H.]

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Revolutionary junta member Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano this afternoon dismissed the possibility of a coup d'etat and noted that democratization will continue firmly.

He said the current political crisis had climaxed with the resignation of the Cabinet that had conditioned its stay in office on the taking of an antioligarchic stand by the young military officers and the removal, without further explanation, of Mario Antonio Andino from the ruling group. He said Guillermo Manuel Ungo's and Roman Mayorga Quiros' voluntary withdrawal from the junta is a token of the democratic regime we have here.

He said the new Cabinet and other public officials will be appointed in 2 or 3 days to replace those who resigned.

He repeated his respect for the free expression of ideas, noting that the laws promulgated so far are indicative of future laws that will benefit the Salvadoran people.

Colonel Majano insisted on land reform which is opposed by the right. He said it is one of the main projects of the revolutionary junta that took power last 15 October.

He flatly rejected charges of a turn to the right by the junta as stated by the resigning officials in general. He said in this country everybody is entitled to view things as he pleases.

The government leader also revealed that the junta is consulting the Christian Democratic Party and other political groups to reorganize the government, noting that civilians will have the upper hand as stated in the armed forces' proclamation released on the day of the military insurrection.

He asked the Salvadoran people to have confidence in the armed forces and the local political forces which, he said, will behave maturely in the current situation.

He called on Salvadorans in general to participate coolly in the work of the state.

He did not discard the possibility of repealing the Constitution promulgated in 1962. He said this is under study.

[Words indistinct] did not dismiss the possibility that the entire junta, initially comprised of three civilians and two colonels and since 24 hours ago comprised only by Colonel Majano, Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez and Mario Antonio Andino, will be totally reshuffled.

He said the armed forces recently confirmed the military and political power of the revolutionary junta.

He concluded by saying it is of current interest to restate the bases and principles of the government program and that the current crisis is providing an opportunity to show the strength of the process undertaken following Gen Carlos Humberto Romero's overthrow. The latter's regime was accused of corruption and promoting political violence.

Andino Resigns From Junta

PA050327 Paris AFP in Spanish 0315 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Jan (AFP)--Mario Antonio Andino, the third civilian member of the Salvadoran Government junta, resigned tonight to allow the armed forces to reorganize the cabinet, he said.

The other two civilians had resigned Thursday night to show their opposition to what they consider a turn to the right by the army's commanders.

Andino represented the private business sector in the revolutionary government junta.

The outgoing cabinet, like the other two civilian members of the junta, were demanding his resignation.

Ungo Admits Junta's Failure

PA052334 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City--Guillermo Manuel Ungo, former member of the Salvadoran military junta, admitted today that the government he belonged to was unable to comply with the program it set forth when it took office. Ungo, who resigned yesterday, told the Mexican newspaper UNO MAS UNO he regretted the false neutrality or the officers who led the movement that toppled Gen Carlos Humberto Romero's dictatorship.

He added that the program insured the political modernization needed in the country but it was not carried out because the business sector and the oligarchy were involved in the state's decisionmaking process. He asserted that without constitutional amendments it is impossible to try to change the current national structures.

Ungo underscored that the negative replies of the Permanent Council of the Armed Forces to the goverment officials' requests served the interests of the oligarchy.

NEW VIOLENCE REPORTED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF COUNTRY

PA051622 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1300 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Relayed by Managua Domestic Service]

[Text] New acts of violence were reported today in different parts of the country. A powerful bomb exploded this morning in La Union, 190 km from San Salvador. This is an important commercial port close to the border with Honduras and Nicaragua.

According to reports, two persons were killed and seven seriously injured by the explosion. So far, no one has claimed responsibility for this explosion.

Meanwhile members of the 28 February Peoples Leagues have put up road blocs along the highway to Sonsonate to protest against the arrest of one of their colleagues yesterday afternoon. They have also denounced the political police for unleashing a relentless persecution against all members of the leagues.

Last night, the Peoples Revolutionary Army claimed responsibility for distributing propaganda bombs in San Ramon, Ayatuxtepeque, Flandercito, Mejicanos and Cuscatansingo, towns close to San Salvador.

From Dr Rodolfo Jimenez Barrios, a former political prisoner of the previous regimes, we learned that Dr Christian Barnard got in touch with him yesterday from Capetown, South Africa, and offered to perform the operation he needs as a contribution on his part to obtain the freedom of South African Ambassador Archibald Dunn, who was kidnaped on 28 November by the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces. According to Dr Jimenez Barrios, the operation he needs would cost him approximately $27,000 in the United States and that he does not have that amount of money.

We are also reporting to our listeners in Nicaragua that all the civilian members of the revolutionary junta have resigned because the armed forces insist on maintaining an extreme rightist position regarding the current political process in the country. For this reason, we can expect that violence will continue.

National Guard Headquarters Attacked

PA041448 Paris AFP in Spanish 1440 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Jan (AFP)--Extreme leftist guerrillas attacked the National Guard general headquarters this morning in San Salvador's northern suburb.

Heavy shooting has been heard in the area for over 20 minutes. The forces of order have blocked all nearby streets, and it is not yet known whether there are any casualties.

The Salvadoran National Guard is comprised of 5,000 men.

Further on Headquarters Attack

PA041645 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1609 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Leftists armed with weapons of various calibers this morning attacked the northwestern entrance of the National Guard central headquarters in El Salvador. Two guardsmen were wounded and two civilians killed. Shortly after the terrorist attack, combined police and army units staged an all-out search for the attackers.

Meanwhile, in the city of Santa Ana, 66 km west of this capital, members of the outlawed leftist Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) today killed retired Second Lieutenant Joaquin Luna Martinez, former Santa Ana municipal police director. Luna was killed inside his home.

Two Guardsmen Killed in Ilobasco

PA042157 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2135 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Ilobasco (El Salvador), 4 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Two Salvadoran National Guardsmen were riddled with bullets today by leftist activists in an ambush against a National Guard patrol in the outskirts of this city, 45 km northeast of San Salvador.

Cpl Miguel Nestali Caceres Rivas and Pvt Alfonso Sibrian Rivas were killed when they, together with three companeros, went to deactivate a bomb allegedly placed at kilometer 11 of the Ilobasco-Jutiapa road.

In other incidents in San Salvador today, two terrorists were killed and two guardsmen were wounded in an attack carried out by leftists against the National Guard headquarters.

ACAN-EFE was told at the emergency unit of the Rosales hospital that six wounded civilians were admitted there from the area where the subversive action occurred.

Army Patrols Capital's Streets

PA042115 Paris AFP in Spanish 2007 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Jan (AFP)--The Salvadoran Army today took to the streets in all the cities of El Salvador and set up roadblocks to prevent further guerrilla action such as occurred this morning when an as yet unidentified group attacked from various flanks the general headquarters of the National Guard in the north of this capital.

Wearing bulletproof vests and heavily armed, soldiers and security agents are posted at the entrance and exits of all the cities, searching all the vehicles that appear suspicious.

The doors of the presidential house are closed and only persons having previous appointments with the two militarymen and one civilian who currently are members of the government junta are allowed to enter.

The main street in front of the government house is blocked.

Meanwhile, judiciary authorities admitted that four bodies were removed after a shootout outside the National Guard. The Red Cross reported having attended nearly 100 wounded persons.

It is believed that two of the bodies are guerrillas, since before falling, they were carrying U.S.-made Galil rifles, [as received] walkie-talkies, a large amount of ammunition for weapons of various calibers and several capsules of poison, apparently to be taken in the event of being arrested.

The other two bodies were of pedestrians who had nothing to do with the events.

Reporters were called in by the guard's National Directorate and were shown the weapons taken and the bodies.

Streets around the garrisons and security corps have been blocked and extreme precautionary measures have been taken.

Meanwhile, it is as yet unknown what time the army communique announcing the makeup of the new government junta and the cabinet will be released.

It was reported this morning, prior to the attack, that the announcement would be made today.

NEW JUNTA MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED SOON

PA052215 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2139 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[By Adrian Roberto Aldana]

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 5 Jan (LATIN)--Groups of guerrillas today occupied four radio stations--three in this capital and one in Sonsonate--and called on the people to rebel while the two remaining members of the government junta continue their attempts to form a new cabinet.

Last night's resignation by the last of the three civilians on the junta, Mario Antonio Andino, left power virtually in the hands of the military. The military, however, announced that three other civilians would be appointed to replace them in the next few hours.

Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano, who is now at the head of the government with his colleague Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, said that the new appointments "might be made in the next few hours" and that a new cabinet will be formed "as soon as possible."

GUATEMALA

LUCAS SPEAKS ON FOREIGN POLICY, NAMES NEW DEFENSE MINISTER

PA060418 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2304 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan President Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia affirmed today, Saturday, that his government will not let "coffee rust disease or communism enter Guatemala."

The president made this statement at a luncheon he hosted for the diplomatic and consular corps at the presidential country home in Santo Tomas, Escuintla Department, to celebrate the new year.

Lucas Garcia said that just like the coffee rust disease, communism appeared for the first time in Central America in Nicaragua, and it is now creeping into neighboring El Salvador. However, he said, "my government will not allow the coffee rust disease or extremist subversion to triumph in Guatemala."

The president was accompanied by the cabinet ministers and ranking army officers. During the luncheon Lucas Garcia announced the appointment of Gen Anibal Guevara as the new national defense minister replacing Maj Gen Otto Spiegeler. He said that the appointment, effective 15 January, was being made in accordance with the armed forces rotation plan.

Lucas Garcia said that he was "very concerned" over the current political crisis in El Salvador, saying that the conflicting parties are coming dangerously closer to an armed confrontation. Nevertheless, he pointed out that if the current political unrest in El Salvador were to occur in Guatemala, "I am willing to face it forcefully." "I will not flee to Miami or New Orleans. I am determined to die here, if it were necessary, to defend the freedom of Guatemalans," he stressed.

On another subject, Lucas Garcia said that he has not been consulted concerning a date for a planned meeting of Central American presidents. He said that at the present time his main foreign policy interest is the upcoming visit to Guatemala by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo. "We have many common interests with Mexico. They are our neighbors, and President Lopez Portillo has shown a lot of good will toward our country," he said.

The president was optimistic about Guatemala's oil future, and said that in a short while this nation will depend less on oil imports. He also explained that Guatemala is currently in a good economic position, with a considerable increase in its production and a record achievement of more than $700 million in international monetary reserves.

HONDURAS

PAZ GARCIA WARNS MARXISTS IN NEW YEAR'S SPEECH

PA012155 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2015 GMT 1 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 1 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, the chief of the Honduran triumvirate, today reiterated the armed forces' decision to lead the country to a constitutional regime next year. He also harshly attacked local communists whom he described as "small gangs."

According to Paz Garcia, the Honduran Marxists are trying to boycott the forthcoming elections because "they are not supported by the people and are against the people's desire for freedom and democracy."

The president of the military junta attacked the "totalitarian Marxists" during his traditional New Year's speech to the nation which was broadcast over radio and television last night.

He also said the Honduran people will continue to repudiate those "gangs" if those "small groups" insist on fulfilling the commitments "they have made with the anti-national totalitarianism."

Regarding foreign policy, Paz Garcia said the military government respects the domestic policy of all states and supports the principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries.

He said Honduras also expects reciprocity and the broadest and most friendly relations with neighboring countries.

Paz Garcia stressed that his government will continue to work to solve the dispute which "momentarily separates us from the Republic of El Salvador" as soon as possible. In this regard, he expressed thanks for recent statements by the members of the Salvadoran junta about "making efforts to obtain a prompt and honorable solution of pending issues with Honduras so that we will again enjoy normal and fraternal relations."

He also emphasized the industrial, highway, agrarian and social projects carried out by the armed forces government which, he said, will intensify its efforts in 1980 to strengthen development and guarantee a return to democracy.

OFFICIAL CONFIRMS EXISTENCE OF SMALL AMOUNTS OF URANIUM

PA062215 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2232 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[By Armando Cerrato]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 5 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Honduran National Resources Secretary Rafael Leonardo Callejas admitted here today that he has known about the existence of uranium in El Mochito, in the western Department of Santa Barbara.

The official admission came following charges by Manuel Guerrero, former president of El Mochito Mine Labor Union, that the government is trying to hide the exploitation of the radioactive material.

Guerrero said he had evidence of the existence of uranium and of its exploitation and export to the United States by Rosario Resources Corporation, a U.S. transnational. He noted that this was being done behind the backs of the Honduran Government and people.

The residents of El Mochito have insisted for several years that the company has taken sophisticated material and equipment there, that many miners have been seen with strange burns and that others have died from diseases never known before in the area.

There were also reports of strange lights coming from deep underground and of the shipment of minerals and garbage which the company sometimes made with the protection of armed guards.

However, the Honduran authorities had always denied the existence of radioactive material in the country and had indicated that the reports of Honduran geologists and mine and chemical experts coincided with those of the U.S. company.

Callejas said today that "it is true that there is uranium in El Mochito but not in commercial quantities profitable for anyone to exploit."

He indicated he obtained the first reports about the uranium from a U.S. laboratory because Honduran technicians and chemists do not have the necessary equipment to detect it here.

According to the U.S. analysis, a sample of the mineral extracted from El Mochito contained .001 percent of uranium oxide per ton.

"That is a very small amount, not sufficient for export. The uranium is found in the form of traces," Callejas said. The official's statement was confirmed by one of his subordinates who said he was a chemist.

Former union leader Guerrero also accused the military government junta of being weak and of not having sufficient courage to stop the maneuvers of the Rosario company, and much less of protesting the illicit exploitation of uranium.

Regarding this charge, Callejas said "the government is not weak and despite the reports it already has and which it believes in, the government has sent a technical mission to El Mochito to undertake investigations on the subject." Callejas said the government will verify if the uranium is exportable and if the company has been exporting it illegally. He criticized the union leaders for not following normal channels to make their charges and for turning to the press before taking the matter up with government officials.

NICARAGUA

SOVIET EMBASSY PERSONNEL BEGIN ARRIVING IN MANAGUA

PA051610 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1555 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 5 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The first group of employees of the Soviet Embassy in Nicaragua began arriving yesterday in this capital. Today it was learned that 11 Soviet diplomats arrived yesterday and 20 other Soviet representatives are expected to arrive here today.

The Soviet ambassador's name has not yet been disclosed, but Nicaragua has appointed Ricardo Wheelock Roman as its ambassador to the Soviet Union. Wheelock had previously served as ambassador to Honduras.

According to reliable sources, the Soviet Embassy in Nicaragua may eventually have some 100 representatives from the USSR. It has also been learned that the Soviet delegation will probably occupy a residence seized from former National Guard Gen Jose "Papachepe" Somoza, Anastasio Somoza Debayle's half brother.

Advance Party Members Named

PA051853 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Eleven members of the Soviet Embassy arrived here aboard two flights yesterday afternoon and this morning from Havana, Cuba. They are here to arrange for the arrival of the Soviet ambassador to Nicaragua. The diplomatic mission is presided over by Counselor Minister Aleksandr A. (Timakov).

Freddy Figueroa Aguilar, in charge of consular affairs of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Cuba, reported to the Foreign Ministry and to the Immigration Office at Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport the arrival of the diplomatic mission.

The members of the diplomatic mission, who will probably stay at what used to be Jose R. Somoza's home, are: Vitaliy C. (Studien), counselor; Gennadiy (Ermatov), second secretary; Nikolay A. (Federov), second secretary; Aleksandr A. (Gilensky), second secretary; Nikolay (Svanov), third secretary; Sergey (Troshin), Vassily (Radaem) Nine A. (Radaeva), Marina L. (Epifanova) and Nina A. (Lorgostoyev).

The diplomatic mission flew aboard Cubana de Aviacion aircraft. They were received at airport by Foreign Ministry officials.

FRIENDSHIP WITH NORTH EUROPEAN COUNTRIES CONSOLIDATED

PA041611 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] (ANN)--Nicaragua will consolidate its ties of friendship with the five Nordic countries whose foreign policy is favorable to the liberation movements, the recently appointed Nicaraguan ambassador to Sweden, Marco Antonio Gonzalez, has announced. Gonzalez, who is 31, studied international law in Moscow and speaks seven languages, has also been appointed ambassador to Denmark and Finland, countries which have remained neutral toward the big powers and do not belong to either the EEC or NATO.

FURTHER COVERAGE OF BORDER INCIDENT WITH HONDURAS

Mercado Denies Involvement

PA050248 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2129 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Junta member Sergio Ramirez Mercado said today "we are investigating the alleged border incident" that the Honduran Foreign Secretariat cited in a note sent to the Nicaraguan executive.

According to the protest note forwarded by the Honduran military junta, a Honduran Air Force helicopter was hit by shots supposedly fired from Nicaraguan territory.

The incident reportedly happened at La Troja, a town in the eastern Honduran Department of El Paraiso, as the craft was carrying a medical brigade. The Honduran Foreign Secretariat reported the plane was hit by gunshots.

Ramirez Mercado said following a "preliminary investigation" the forces stationed in northern Nicaragua gave assurances they have no information on the incident.

"In our reply to the Honduran Foreign Secretariat, we added we will continue investigating to determine if the incident took place and if the shots were fired from Nicaraguan territory," Ramirez Mercado added.

He said that was the Nicaraguan Government's reply to the Honduran authorities. The Nicaraguan official said the helicopter mentioned in the Honduran note reached its base "without any trouble." He also noted that Nicaragua assures the Honduran Foreign Secretariat that bilateral relations "will continue along normal and cordial channels."

Ramirez Mercado also cited a version that the Honduran Government is reportedly ready to take the matter up with the OAS. He said he does not think the Honduran Government will do that because it is difficult to determine whether the alleged incident happened or not.

"We are not casting doubts over the Honduran Government's note but we have no evidence of such an incident involving members of our country's armed forces," Ramirez Mercado added.

Answering a question, the Nicaraguan official said he does not think the supposed incident will impede the holding of the Central American summit of chiefs of state. "Plans for that meeting continue. Besides, the Honduran Foreign Secretariat did not mention that in the note," he added.

Meanwhile, an international news dispatch datelined in San Jose, Costa Rica said today the meeting of Central American presidents slated for 26 and 27 January here has been postponed until early February. At least that is what a ranking Costa Rican official told Radio Reloj in Costa Rica.

D'Escoto Says Incident 'Closed'

PA060346 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0022 GMT 6 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 5 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Government regards as "closed" the latest border incident that happened on Thursday evening when a Honduran Air Force helicopter was machinegunned by alleged Sandinist soldiers. This triggered a strong protest by the Honduran Foreign Secretariat.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman revealed this today here after receiving a report from the charge d'affaires in Tegucigalpa, Conny de Penell, on a conversation she had with Honduran Foreign Secretary Elisseo Perez Cadalso.

During the conversation Perez Cadalso explained an international dispatch that claimed he said he would not attend a meeting of Central American foreign ministers in Costa Rica in the latter half of January as a result of the latest incident on the Nicaraguan border.

The Honduran foreign secretary told the Nicaraguan envoy "not to pay attention to that statement and regard the incident as closed."

Father D'Escoto Brockman reiterated to local newsmen that the Nicaraguan Government wants to find out from where the helicopter was attacked since the Sandinist People's Army had no official knowledge of it and that it concurs with the government of the neighboring country that anything that might lead to a deterioration in the relationship of understanding and friendship between the two nations and governments should be avoided.

These views are contained in the reply that the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry sent to the Honduran Foreign Secretariat yesterday.

Concerning the slated meeting with his counterparts of the area in Costa Rica, the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister said Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon had not informed him of a postponement.

Newspaper reports from the area stated this week that the postponement of the ministers' meeting had been requested by the foreign ministers of Guatemala and Honduras.

"On the contrary, I received a note from my Costa Rican counterpart yesterday stating who will accompany President Rodrigo Carazo Odio to the Central American summit here in Managua in February," D'Escoto Brockman said.

He insisted on the need to hold a summit of the chief executives of the countries of the area in the wake of the victory scored by the Sandinist revolution.

"We need to consolidate Central American brotherhood and fellowship and maximize the ways of achieving economic, cultural, political and even diplomatic cooperation. This will be a new stage of dialog in the region," the Nicaraguan minister concluded.

CARRION STRESSES NEED TO INCREASE ARMY'S DEFENSIVE MIGHT

PA041556 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2216 GMT 3 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Sandinist People's Army (EPS) has been involved in strengthening its defensive capability since the 19 July triumph of the revolution, Luis Carrion Cruz, second commander of the EPS, said here today.

Commander Carrion stressed that "historically, there has not been a single victorious revolution which has not been counterattacked, and we have the right to think ours can also be counterattacked at any moment."

In a statement to radio newsmen, the officer added that two measures have been taken to meet this threat: One is to increase the technical and firepower capability of the EPS as the backbone of the defense of the revolution; the second is to create a system to train the people militarily. United they can crush the counterrevolution.

Carrion Cruz indicated that since the reconstruction government does not have money to maintain a large army, the people must be trained around the army so they can be mobilized to defend peace and national sovereignty at any time.

The Sandinist commander added that the task of increasing the revolution's defense capability has been placed in the hands of Eden Pastora (Commander Cero), new deputy defense minister in charge of the militias.

We are going to train and organize the people so that, along with their army, they will be able to defend militarily their decision to be free and sovereign, the Nicaraguan commander added.

BORGE REAFFIRMS MILITARY STANCE, ECONOMIC POLICY

PA041712 Paris AFP in Spanish 0231 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 Jan (AFP)--Nicaragua will buy antiaircraft equipment for the Sandinist Army, Interior Minister and Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge announced here today. He made the announcement while military spokesman Roberto Sanchez reported that investigations are underway concerning the Honduran Government charge that Sandinist border patrols had strafed an Honduran helicopter with .50 caliber machineguns.

Sanchez denied there had been a clash between the Sandinist Army and counterrevolutionaries in the city of Rivas, 120 km south of Managua. The military spokesman said two shootouts, one in the vicinity of the main military headquarters of the city and another in the outlying region were not synchronized attacks, but isolated incidents caused by irresponsible persons. No deaths or injuries resulted from the shootouts.

Speaking before a group of workers, Minister Borge said we do not need tanks or aircraft, only antiaircraft equipment, because we do not plan to attack anyone, although we have a problem since we are not in a position to purchase them.

Borge reiterated that Nicaragua is entering the year 1980 totally free of U.S. tutelage, to which it was subjected for many years, and accepting the United States as friends and not as [word indistinct].

The military leader said there is no returning to the past in Nicaragua and the bourgeoisie must be confident in joining the revolutionary process, because it is not true that the revolution has let private business thrive in order to seize it later. We only want everyone to share in the profits of the private sector and the bourgeoisie can trust in us, because we have been honest in our statements, Borge said.

He stated that if the wealthy sectors want to take their capital out of the country believing they would not benefit by leaving it in the country or because they have no faith in the revolution, the government's economic reactivation plans for 1980 will be carried out through other means.

The minister again defended the Cuban presence in the country, affirming that any other country can compete with Cuba in (?providing) assistance to Nicaragua, sending the necessary material and equipment.

Meanwhile, [word indistinct] leader Manuel Sanchez appeared today before the local human rights commission, claiming that the Sandinist Army is persecuting him for publishing a weekly on labor matters. Sanchez is secretary general of the Health Workers Federation which unites some 7,000 paramedical personnel and which refuses to join the proposed Single Central of Sandinist Workers [Central Unica de Trabajadores Sandinistas].

REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY ON AFGHAN CRISIS

Havana Reports Carter Speech

FL051403 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Jan 80 FL

[Text] U.S. President James Carter last night announced that he is taking economic reprisals against the Soviet Union for the aid it is giving to Afghanistan in accordance with the friendship and mutual assistance treaty signed by those two neighboring countries at the end of 1979. In a 12-minute speech to the nation carried by radio and television stations, Carter talked about indefinitely postponing the sale of technology and other commodities, cutting back the Soviet fishing quota in U.S. waters, and suspending the supply of 11 million tons of cereals. The U.S. head of state also announced that his government will lend military, food and other aid to Pakistan so that this country may face up to what he called Afghanistan's threat against neighboring states. President Carter even threatened to boycott the Moscow Olympic games scheduled for midyear if the Soviet Union continues to help Afghanistan and other Asian countries. In addition, he announced the postponement of the opening of new Soviet consulates in the United States and his country's in the USSR, as well as cancelling bilateral cultural and other exchanges. He asked for the cooperation of U.S. allies in his decisions.

Observers Analyze Cuban Position

PA051512 Paris AFP in Spanish 0330 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

[By Jacques Thomet]

[Text] Havana, 4 Jan (AFP)--A week has gone by since the Soviet troops' massive intervention in Afghanistan and Cuba still has not defined its position, nor have the Cuban leaders said anything about the U.S. hostages in Tehran, observers here pointed out. Neither of these two current hot issues were mentioned in the joint declaration that Cuba's main leader, Fidel Castro, and Georges Marchais, French Communist Party secretary general, signed here tonight, and in which, among other things, they referred to the struggle against the arms race. The Cuban press is only reporting the Afghanistan events according to dispatches from the Soviet news agency TASS. As a matter of fact, GRANMA, the Communist Party of Cuba newspaper, today carried an item saying that whoever talks of a Soviet invasion is not facing reality.

The Cuban Government's delay in making a statement on the Afghan crisis is partly due to the Cuban leaders' reluctance to take a stand, even if they do not approve of the Red Army intervention in Kabul. The Communist Party of Cuba, one of the closest to the USSR since Castro approved Czechoslovakia's occupation by Soviet troops, has in principle avoided taking a public stand on such matters, following Castro's appointment as president of the nonalined countries movement for a 3-year term during the September conference held in Havana. This could be interpreted as Cuba's desire not to assume any position which could be taken as the official stand of the 95 member states of the nonalined movement.

The movement, created by initiative of heads of state, such as Yugoslav President Tito, is opposed to the policy of blocs as stated in its bylaws, even if some of its members are either close to the Western or Soviet worlds. It has become even more difficult for the Cubans to give an opinion on behalf of the nonalined now that Yugoslavia, a founder of the movement, has expressed its disapproval of the Soviet intervention.

On the other hand, after 20 years of U.S. economic blockade, the USSR still is Cuba's main economic support, which, according to diplomatic sources, is costing the USSR approximately $5 to $7 million daily. For this reason it is very unlikely that Cuba will go against the Soviet strategy in Kabul, even if it would prefer actions of a diplomatic nature, as in the case of the Iranian crisis.

Diplomatic sources have confirmed, although no official statements have been published to indicate whether Cuba approves or disapproves of the taking of hostages, that Cuba has played an active and positive role so far with the Iranian authorities in trying to solve the situation.

Commentary Scores U.S. Countermeasures

FL051732 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 Jan 80 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry Combatants Political Information Program commentary]

[Text] U.S. President James Carter has asked the Senate to postpone the debates on the SALT II treaty, signed by him and top Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev 6 months ago in Vienna and not yet ratified by Washington. The new pretext to delay this matter is one more demonstration of U.S. irresponsibility when dealing with mankind's most pressing problems. Carter urged the postponement of the examination of the treaty because he does not agree with the military aid being given by the Soviet Union to Afghanistan.

What is the reason for Carter's reaction to the Afghan problem? What is behind all this? Since April 1978 Afghanistan has been the arena for a revolutionary process which recently suffered a phase of treachery and a regime of repression and crimes when a confirmed agent of the CIA, Hafizollah Amin, overthrew and murdered president Nur Muhammed Taraki. During the Taraki administration Afghanistan was the victim of foreign provocations directed by the United States and China. Counterrevolutionary gangs were being armed and encouraged by those states in complicity with Pakistan, a country where the bandits were being supplied and trained and from which they were infiltrating Afghanistan, perpetrating murders and sabotage and carrying out other destabilizing actions.

Under Amin's rule a regime of terror was unleashed. The gains made by the revolution of April 1978 were placed in jeopardy. Internal reactionary forces were strengthened and the threat of armed aggression by Yankee imperialism through its lackeys appeared imminent. Amin even planned the extermination of entire Afghan tribes using napalm bombs as well as the mass killing on 28 December of all his political adversaries. Amin was opportunely overthrown by the country's revolutionary forces which, in an effort to preserve the revolution and the nation's integrity, requested military and other aid from the neighboring Soviet Union.

The USSR immediately lent support to Afghanistan in accordance with the provisions of the friendship and cooperation treaty signed by the two countries in 1978. In a declaration issued on 31 December, the new Afghan Government reaffirmed that its request had been made in accordance with the treaty to confront the armed provocations of imperialism, whose leading figure is the United States. It is normal that Washington reacted hysterically when its agent was lost and its plans of aborting that country's revolution crumbled.

Now Carter and his advisers are weaving a new campaign of defamation against the USSR, charging that it invaded Afghanistan.

They are attempting to distort Soviet solidarity with a nation that is asking for aid and to compare it to actions such as those of the Yankee Marines in the Dominican Republic, South Africa against Angola, Israel against Arab countries or Rhodesia against Mozambique, Botswana and Zambia which, for certain, Washington has never condemned.

To top it off, Carter is attempting to use the Afghan issue as a pretext to postpone the ratification of the SALT II treaty, a treaty which has nothing to do with this Asian country's problem. Resorting to this is only a demonstration of the lack of responsibility of the U.S. Government when it deals with problems of such great importance for mankind. It must be said that this, in essence, is one more U.S. step against peace and detente, a new step, because there have been other already.

Under U.S. pressure, NATO will deploy 572 intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe. Carter is urging the production of the MX intercontinental ballistic missile, the neutron bomb, which already is in the works, new nuclear submarines and nuclear missile-carrying vessels for the U.S. Navy. It has also been learned that the United States is planning to provide nuclear weapons to Pakistan, a country which has borders with Afghanistan and the USSR [as heard] and is located at the entrance of the Arabian Gulf, an area coveted by the Yankees for its oil wealth.

As you will remember, a few weeks ago Washington also resorted to the sabotage of the SALT II treaty with the invention of the presence in Cuba of a Soviet combat brigade. Now Carter comes up with another reason, what he calls a Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Doubtless, the reactionary spirit which charterizes Yankee policy tends to lead the government to take the worst actions and adopt ridiculous and dangerous decisions.

To sabotage the SALT II treaty, to use it as a toy in campaigns of incalculable consequences, are the goals of the real U.S. policy, and this decision made by Carter is one more example of that callous and irresponsible way of acting.

Havana Cites TASS Reaction

FL041331 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The defeat of the imperialists' plans in Afghanistan has caused a furious propagandistic furor in the Western media. U.S. President James Carter assailed Soviet policy in an interview with ABC television. In his remarks Carter distorted the purposes and reason for Soviet aid to the Afghan Government. And he warned Moscow there would be serious consequences and political actions.

A commentary by the Soviet news agency TASS responding to Carter's statements reminds the U.S. President that by speaking of a Soviet invasion of Afghanistan he is distorting the truth. TASS recalls that Soviet economic, political and military aid to Afghanistan is the result of repeated requests by the government of that country to the Soviet Union in 1978 and 1979 as a way to confront the armed interference by the imperialist forces. The Soviet news agency points out that Soviet aid to Afghanistan takes place in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter which recognizes the inherent right of states to individual or collective self-defense in repelling aggression or establishing peace.

TASS adds that Soviet aid to Afghanistan is also based on Article 4 of the Soviet-Afghan friendship, good neighborliness and cooperation treaty which was signed in 1978. TASS adds that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and the British and Chinese secret services were the ones who trained, armed and brought into Afghanistan the counterrevolutionary terrorist bands which maintained instability and crime in the country.

The TASS agency also states that the President of the greatest capitalist power has quickly defended a person who was just recently believed in the United States to be a Red. It adds that it is logical for this to happen because the overthrown President Amin was a CIA spy who overthrew and assassinated Nur Mohammad Taraki, the legitimate president of Afghanistan, and who eliminated and repressed thousands of Afghan workers and revolutionaries. TASS recalls that among the plans of the deposed Amin were to wipe off the face of the earth the (Hazara) tribe and execute on the evening of 28 December all political adversaries, who earlier had been jailed.

The Soviet news agency states that the massive propaganda campaign, in which the Maoist agency XINHUA is also participating, is a maneuver to divert world public opinion from the dirty and true imperialist plans. TASS stresses that in this way they are attempting to hide the authentic U.S. threat to Iran and the aggressive and interventionist plans against the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, as well as to extend the influence of the NATO military bloc into the Near and Middle East.

Soviet Policy Defended

PA040444 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jan 80 PA

[Unattributed commentary: "World Events"]

[Text] All Western mass media have engaged in a slander campaign against the Soviet Union on the occasion of the recent events in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. In that country, the revolutionary people, grouped in the People's Democratic Party and [passage indistinct] armed forces, overthrew the regime of Hafizollah Amin which, through treason and [word indistinct], had briefly scaled the highest state and political levels of that nation.

With the victory of the Afghan revolution in April 1978, the doors of social progress opened up in that country and [passage indistinct] against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and its Soviet neighbors. The revolutionary process started in Afghanistan inflicted a heavy blow to the imperialists' [word indistinct] plans, who up to that time had used that territory to harass the Soviet Union with blackmail campaigns and threats of aggression.

As soon as the imperialists noticed the progressive nature of the Afghan revolution, they unleashed the press, radio and television campaign to denounce the alleged intervention of the Soviet Union in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. Through such a campaign, the enemies of peace and progress sought to destroy the friendship between the peoples of these two nations while revealing their true objectives: the imperialist intervention in Afghanistan.

For months, the imperialists tried to torpedo the foundations of the Afghan popular regime to frustrate its plans for the revolutionary change of its society. From Pakistani territory and other nearby nations, the imperialists launched armed attacks and other counterrevolutionary actions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The imperialists were joined by the Beijing hierarchs who also tried to [words indistinct].

In view of the growing intervention of the enemies of Afghanistan, the Afghan Government requested military help from the Soviet Union. Such help, comprised in the traditional international [indistinct] policy which the Soviet people have always offered to all just causes, to safeguard the conquests of a nation which, like Afghanistan, has chosen the path of social, political and economic liberation and opposes the warlike attitude of international imperialism, reaction and Beijing hegemonism.

In taking such action, the Soviet Union responds to the Soviet-Afghan treaty of (?1978), which contemplates cooperation to guarantee the security, independence and integrity of both nations, including military cooperation. In addition, the action of the Soviet Union agrees with Article 51 of the UN Charter, which stipulates the right of the states to request individual or collective assistance in the case of an armed attack. In this case, it concerns containing the open and growing armed intervention of the external enemies of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. That situation of imminent danger for the existence of the popular regime prompted the request by the Afghan Government for urgent military help from the Soviet Union.

The joint measures adopted by the Soviet Union and Afghanistan for the sole purpose of stopping the counterrevolution promoted by the imperialists in no way affects the interests of third countries, as claimed by the propaganda unleashed in recent days by the capitalist press. The Soviet fraternal aid offered to the revolutionary Government of Afghanistan has the support of the Afghan workers, of the progressive forces and of all the peoples of the world.

USSR, GDR, URGE CHOOSING OF 15TH SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBER

PA061917 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Soviet Union and the GDR have stated at the UN Security Council that they are concerned about the fact that this important organization of the United Nations at this moment does not have its 15 members.

Soviet Ambassador to the United Nations Oleg Troyanvoskiy has blamed this situation on the United States, a country, he noted, that does not hide its interest in obstructing Cuba's election to the Security Council.

The GDR representative, Peter Florin, has stated the fact that a Security Council seat belonging to the Latin American group, and in this specific case to the nonalined states, is empty does not help make the United Nations a more efficient organization. Florin urged all the UN states to do all possible to secure asuccessfil conclusion to the 34th session of the General Assembly with the election of the 15th member of the Security Council.

PRAVDA Cited on U.S. 'Intrigues'

FL041557 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1524 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The anti-Cuban campaign of intrigues and blackmail unleashed by the United States in view of the possibility that Cuba would take a seat on the UN Security Council has been condemned by the Soviet paper PRAVDA. The paper points out that the Washington Government does not want, among other things, our country to be the 15th nonpermanent member of the Security Council. According to alphabetical order, within a month Cuba would takeover the presidency of that organ where the U.S. Government has always tried to impose its policy of force, and even more so now that it is having problems with Iran. PRAVDA adds that the United States fears the traditional and principled policies of Cuba, and especially now that it holds the presidency of the nonalined countries movement in which it has prestige and authority.

UNITED STATES ACCUSED OF DUMPING TIN RESERVES

PA060243 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 5 Jan 80 PA

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] Once again the U.S. Government has allowed the sale of part of its tin reserves on the international market.

This action seriously harms the Bolivian economy which relies on tin as its main source of income. This is not the first time U.S. imperialists have dumped thousands of tons of that mineral on the market. It involves an inevitable drop in the price of tin, which will harm the exporting countries. This is not the first time the United States has used trade to pressure the Latin American governments.

It is quite revealing that President James Carter should authorize the sale of 35,000 tons of tin from U.S. reserves precisely now that Bolivia is experiencing a political crisis markedly influenced by the recent people's mobilization that thwarted the coupist attempts of the reactionary military. Economic pressure and sanctions are among the weapons used by U.S. imperialists against the nations of our America whose economies largely depend on exporting raw materials.

By dumping part of its tin reserves on the market, U.S. imperialists have caused a difficult economic situation for Bolivia precisely when this South American nation is facing a serious economic and political crisis. Washington's objectives are self-evident.

FIDEL CASTRO, PCF'S GEORGE MARCHAIS SIGN JOINT STATEMENT

FL041131 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] A joint declaration between Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC, and Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party, has been signed in Havana. Attending the ceremony were Politburo members Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Armando Hart and Jose Ramon Machado Ventura; Jesus Montane, member of the PCC Central Committee and head of its general department of foreign relations; and Rafael Polanco and Javier Ardizones, deputy chief and section chief respectively of this department. This declaration is the result of the talks held at the Palace of the Revolution between Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and Georges Marchais in which they dealt with matters dealing with relations between the two parties and aspects of the present international situation. Marchais is visiting Cuba in response to an invitation from the first secretary of our party.

Marchais Departs for Home

FL041236 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpt] Last night the commander in chief went to Jose Marti International Airport to bid farewell to the secretary general of the French Communist Party and Maxime Gremetz, member of the Politburo and secretary of foreign relations of that political organization, who departed for their country.

CYPRIOT PRESIDENT GREETS FIDEL CASTRO ON ANNIVERSARY

FL041349 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou has sent a congratulatory message to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, Cuban chief of state and government, on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution. The note states that with the greatest pleasure on this occasion I transmit to your excellency on behalf of the Cypriot people, government and myself the most cordial congratulations and warm wishes to you and progress and prosperity for the fraternal Cuban people under your clear guidance. The message adds that I wish to reiterate our dearest hope to develop as much as possible the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

DPRK DEFENSE MINISTER GREETS RAUL CASTRO

FL041402 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] In connection with the 21st anniversary of the [Cuban] revolution, DPRK Defense Minister O Chin-u has greeted Army Gen Raul Castro, minister of the revolutionary armed forces and second secretary of the PCC. In his message Chin-u states that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the armies of the two countries will continue developing favorably.

POLITBURO MEMBER REVIEWS DIEGO DE AVILA VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

FL040036 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Party Politburo member Arnaldo Milian Castro has visited the La Cuba starch vegetables enterprise in the municipality of Baragua [Ciego de Avila Province] where he observed the new furrow irrigation system [riego de agua por bandas] on plantain fields. The system is being used successfully in Ciego de Avila Province.

The irrigation system along the narrow paths of the plantain fields represents a considerable savings of the valuable liquid as well as better quality irrigation, faster sprouting and, therefore, more production per caballeria. The system is being applied on 87 caballerias of plantains in the province under the advice of Bulgarian technician (Balio Yankov).

Milian also visited the plantain areas linked to the revolution's movement for higher production and was briefed in detail on the current status and future plans of the La Cuba enterprise which should produce 1 million quintals of starch vegetables in 1982.

The Politburo member said the results attained by the enterprise have been good. He also urged the management and workers of the enterprise to continue implementing organizational and technical measures on starch vegetable production.

Thereafter, Milian chaired a meeting in which the starch vegetable production plan for 1980 in Ciego de Avila Province was examined. The plan calls for 1,696,500 quintals. Milian stressed the effort made by the agriculture sector and workers to stabilize production and pointed out the need for continued work to increase yields per caballeria.

JUAN AIMEIDA TOURS CAMAGUEY SUGARCANE MILL

FL041214 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Commander of the revolution Juan Almeida Bosque, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Council of State, has toured areas of the Batalla de las Guasimas sugarcane mill which is being built in Vertientes Municipality, Camaguey Province. The new community and the polytechnical study center which are being built near the future sugar mill were also visited by party leader Juan Almeida. He was concerned about the most critical problems facing that important project in completing it on schedule. Almeida praised the housing complex, the education institution and the advances being made in building the Batalla de las Guasimas mill.

CDR NATIONAL SEMINAR OPENS; TO FOCUS ON EFFICIENCY

FL041427 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Included among the priority tasks of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution--CDR--in honor of the second congress of the PCC are to increase popular revolutionary vigilance, especially regarding maintenance of the second night watch, and aiding self-financing by means of increasing the management of prices and savings. This was announced at a national seminar for CDR cadres responsible for voluntary work, public health, savings and social work which was inaugurated in Havana with the attendance of Maria Teresa Malmierca, CDR vice coordinator.

In opening the meeting, Vidal Rivera, member of the CDR Executive Secretariat, stated that 1980, which will be a time of economic difficulties and complexity in increasing efficiency in all areas, will also need the efforts of the membership to increase the quality of the internal operations of their organization.

In a special presentation, Ernesto de la Torre, first vice minister of public health, pointed out the achievements of joint work between the public health ministry and the CDR, citing as an example the decrease in infant mortality this past year.

The CDR national seminar which is meeting in Havana will continue through tomorrow, Saturday.

GRANMA PARTY SECRETARY CALLS FOR GREATER EFFORTS

FL052019 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2005 GMT 5 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Granma Province's First Party Secretary Emilio Loo Hernandez has called for a general and complete offensive for the fulfillment of work plans as of the first month of the year in all spheres of revolutionary endeavor. In a meeting with political, mass and union leaders of the province and municipalities, Emilio Loo said that in 1980 we must plan to work differently from other years in which it became necessary to make a great effort at year's end to fulfill the programs.

The party leader stated that we must use the slogans exigency and efficiency as the revolutionary work style. Emilio Loo added that the province's response to the economic difficulties the country will face in 1980 is to fulfill all plans beginning in January and all other months.

BRIEFS

MEDICAL TEAM TO KAMPUCHEA--Hanoi--A Cuban medical team composed of 21 specialists has arrived in Hanoi en route to the People's Republic of Kampuchea where it will work for 1 year. The team consisting of 14 doctors and 7 technicians is led by Dr (Luis Urra de la Hoz) and will leave for Kampuchea on Friday. The specialties which the team will be handling include internal medicine, pediatrics, EENT, orthopedics, anesthesiology, surgery, ophthalmology, dentistry and obstetrics. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 2 Jan 80 FL]

MATANZAS WORKERS CONGRATULATED--Upon completing the production of 3,800 tons of fiber and 200 tons of fibril, the workers of the Eladio Hernandez henequen enterprise of the municipality of Cardenas have fulfilled their annual production program. Julian Rizo Alvarez, first party secretary in Matanzas Province, congratulated the workers on behalf of the party and government in a speech at a ceremony marking the occasion. [Text] [Matanzas Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jan 80 FL]